



City of Salinas

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April 1, 2008

Via Electronic Mail and U.S. Mail

Lisa McCann, Environmental Programs Manager
Matt Thompson, P.E., Water Resource Control Engineer
California Regional Water Quality Control Board
Central Coast Region
895 Aerovista Place, Suite 101
San Luis Obispo, California 93401-7906

Re: City of Salinas Storm Water Development Standards

Dear Lisa and Matt:

As you are both aware, in December 2007 the City of Salinas (City) submitted a draft of *The City of Salinas Storm Water Development Standards For New Development and Significant Redevelopment Projects* which describe the measures to be taken in all new development and significant redevelopment projects in accordance with the City's NPDES Permit. Those standards are reflective of comments received from members of the Salinas NPDES Stakeholder Committee and the consulting firm of Kennedy/Jenks, retained by the City to review and provide additional comments and suggestions.

At the time of submittal on December 31, 2007, the City requested formal review and consideration of those Standards by Regional Board staff. As of the date of this letter, the City has not yet received the Regional Board staff's written comments on their review of the City's Standards. Here is my understanding of the status of the Regional Board staff's review of the City's Standards to date:

1. On January 18, 2008, Carl Niizawa and Dale Roskamp from the City's Engineering Services Department met with members of the Regional Board staff to review the Standards. This meeting included a review of the organization and content of each section of the Standards.
2. After the February 8, 2008 Regional Board meeting in San Luis Obispo, Lisa and I discussed our developing a schedule for review of the Standards and on February 20, 2008, I e-mailed a proposed schedule to Lisa, Dominic Roques, and Donette Dunaway

Item No. 18 Attachment No. 4
July 11, 2008 Meeting
City of Salinas Stormwater
Development Standards

Lisa Horowitz McCann, Environmental Programs Manager
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for their review and consideration. We did not receive a response to this proposed schedule.

3. On March 13, 2008, several members of City staff held a telephone conference with you both to discuss the Standards and your review of the Standards. We requested your comments on the Standards and you indicated you would provide general comments to the City within a couple of weeks.
4. On March 21, 2008, I met with the both of you at City Hall to again discuss the Standards and your review of the Standards. During that meeting you indicated that you had not completed your review of the Standards or your comments on the Standards and that you would provide general comments within a couple of weeks. We also discussed the possibility of revising/redrafting the City's Standards based on the standards and Guidebook developed and implemented in Contra Costa County. We also agreed a meeting among Regional Board staff and City staff, including a member of the City's Planning Department, to discuss the City's Standards and the Contra Costa County standards would be helpful. You indicated you would schedule a meeting some time during the week of April 14, yet at this time we have not received confirmation of that meeting.

We are mindful of your recent staffing transitions and of your heavy workload and we are also mindful of your concerns that the City's December 2007 Standards are not well enough developed; however, we are also mindful of the fact that the Regional Board is expecting to review and to consider the City's Standards at its July 11, 2008 meeting. The City is committed to bringing forth a final draft of the City's Standards, complete with review by the City's NPDES Stakeholders Committee and other members of the public, to the Regional Board on July 11, 2008 for their review and consideration.

To that end we request Regional Board staff provide, as soon as reasonably possible, specific written comments on how the City's draft Standards are deficient in meeting the requirements of the City's NPDES Permit and the requirements of the Clean Water Act. Further, the City requests a meeting among City staff and Regional Board staff to discuss those specific comments and to discuss necessary revisions to the City's Standards. We are available to meet with you during the week of April 14 and for your convenience are prepared to meet with you in San Luis Obispo.

With regard to your specific written comments on the City's Standards, one suggestion would be to utilize the format you used in February to indicate the required revisions of the City's Storm Water Management Plan. As the City's NPDES Permit is the standard upon which the Standards and all the City's other storm water-related documents are based, it is important for us to know how and where the Standards are deficient in meeting the requirements of the City's NPDES Permit. Consequently, we would suggest the addition of one other column to correspond to the City's NPDES Permit:

Lisa Horowitz McCann, Environmental Programs Manager
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Ref No.	SWDS Section	Subject	Concern	Required Revision(s)	NPDES Permit Section
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As discussed above, we understand your current staffing constraints and your workload. We also appreciate the improved communication among City staff and Regional Board staff; however, in order for us to prevent the further delay in completing the City's Standards and having them reviewed by the public and approved by the Regional Board, we need to receive your formal, specific written comments without further delay.

We appreciate your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Christopher A. Callihan
Sr. Deputy City Attorney

CAC/ns

cc: Roger Briggs, Executive Officer

City Attorney
Deputy City Manager/City Engineer
Deputy City Engineer
Sr. Civil Engineer
Maintenance Services Director
Water Resources Planner
NPDES Stakeholder Committee